2nd Annual Coastal Marine Resources Committee Summit
October 13-14, 2011
Olympic Natural Resources Center - Forks, WA

Highlights of Day One:

Participant hopes for the retreat:

- Want to communicate/collaborate: 10
- Agree on one measureable project: 9
- Excited to hear ideas: 6
- Focus on the partnerships / political cohesion / relationships: 6
- Learn from each other: 5
- Use monies available/leverage: 2
- Get to know each other better: 2
- Focus on disaster prep
- Estuaries project
- Identify the tools and resources needed
- *Participants noted a connection between political cohesion, relationships, wanting to communicate and collaborate, and agreeing on one project to do together. These are mutually beneficial.*

Characteristics of successful collaborative projects:

focus	values	persistent	mission accomplished
give and take	common, defined goals	true brainstorming	repetition
identify needs	pubic engagement	outreach	open mind
willing to learn	outcomes	listening	diversity
humor	alliance	passion	buy-in
respect	sharing		

End of day one clusters

Using a participatory brainstorming process, individuals wrote down collaborative project ideas, shared these in groups, and groups sent forward ideas to the Big Idea Wall. These were clustered into categories.

- **Debris** (4 votes): Marine debris, Japan debris, shore debris prevention, creosote piling inventory & removal, gear removal and habitat impediments. **Working Group**: Liam, Christopher, Eric

- **Youth** (1 vote): Coordinated extra-curricular ocean literacy, youth MRC corps, student internships/field trips; **Working Group**: Chiggers, Rebekah Gentry, Garrett

- **Jobs** (6 votes): Marine based jobs, jobs, jobs; promoting coastal tourism; **Working Group**: Mark P, Ray Toste, Rod F, Dick Sheldon, Miranda, Tami

- **Data Collection** (9 votes): Near shore assessment & monitoring (mapping), focused data collection, coast wide implemented monitoring, sediment erosion management, human use non-consumptible recreational mapping, climate change adaptation planning workshop, climate change data collection, mapping of assets, invasive species assessment, education and action, coastal socio-economic assessment, identify threats and key issues; **Working Group**: Tom Kollasch, Kathy G, Dana, Michael Spencer, Cathy L

- **Citizen Scientist/Oral History** (6 votes): Citizen monitoring program h20, birds, , volunteers: citizen scientist training, consistent research models and protocols, Oral histories local, ecological knowledge, oral histories (non-commercial) natural resource use; **Working Group**: John Hunter, Jenna Jewett, Jane, John Richmond, Jody

- **Outreach** (2 votes); Host coast-wide trainings (birds, marine mammals, etc.), coordinated coastwide citizen education outreach, education/outreach on estuaries (nurseries for the oceans), community access to science education, coast-wide education and outreach strategic plan, festivals as outreach; **Working Group**: Birdie, Lorena

- **Media** (2 votes); Spot announcements for radio/newspaper, coastwide newsletter/website, common coast website for MRC's & educators, "connect the coast" issues media awareness, scenic critical area guide/publication; **Working Group**: Robin, Key

- **CMSP:** CMSP symposium, feasibility analysis CMSP through SMP's; **Group**: Mike J., Sam Giese, Dale
- **Coastwide meeting with Legislators** (1 vote); **Working Group**: Mike Nordin, Doug Kaso
- **Oil** (2 votes); Oil spill training, get involved in GRP's, plan for oil spill prevention. No Group
- **Organizational Capacity building** (no votes) No group.
- **Technology for Inter-agency disaster warning communication** (no votes) No Group.

Project Criteria

The group discussed at tables the most important criteria for selecting a project.

- Affordable now
- Doable in one year or so
- Fits with the mission/benchmarks of each individual MRC
- Benefits all MRC districts
- Exciting, valuable, visible
- Can partner with others, but do not duplicate others' efforts
- Integrate other cluster ideas

Day One Concluded with individuals assigning themselves to these clusters for additional work on day two.

Highlights of Day Two:

Participants created project ideas from the clusters

A) Discussion on possibilities:

- What is this cluster about?
- What is the insight?
- What is the opportunity?
- What project are we most excited about?
- Focus on ONE. Keep a list for others, or those requiring long term planning.

B) Create Template:

- Project Title/Idea
- Purpose (problem, solution)
- Key Actions
- Timeframe
- How does this project meet the criteria?

C) Project ideas were posted on sheets of paper, then voted on. Each participant received three votes: one was worth one point, one was worth three points, one was worth six points. The projects and the tallies are below.

#1) Washington Coast Marine Debris Assessment and Removal (84 points)

Purpose:

- discreet one year project, that grows to a coast wide project over two years
- understand scope and scale of issue coast wide beaches, estuaries and rivers
- implement comprehensive removal project
- build from existing networks and progress (WA Clean Coast Alliance, beach clean-up)

Key actions:

- each MRC assesses scope and scale of issue with existing artwork - designate lead person for routine collaboration (now through sep 2012)
- each MRC participates with and recruits for WA Clean Coast Alliance and develops partnerships (through Sep 2012)
- Develop and submit a comprehensive coast wide marine debris removal project (NOAA) (one year from now through June 2013 to implement 200K project along coast, based on year spent developing project and partnerships with tribes, net users)
- Need 1100 volunteers, leverage hours and match to do dangerous work on net removal and save $$.

Cost: $5K each in 2011-12; $5K each in 2012-13 for longer term bring in 150K new money to coast, jobs could result, identify the leavers of the nets

#2) Washington's Working Coast (Jobs, Jobs) (83 points)

Purpose:

- build understanding of the marine resource based economic engine and seek ways to sustain and expand it.

Key actions:

- Reports
  - analysis of marine based jobs
  - identify threats
  - evaluation of regulatory environment
  - industry leadership /informational materials
  - define opportunities for enterprise, job creation, efficiency that are sustainable (fisheries, aqua culture, tourism, marine industries like ship building),
  - explore history of industry
  - coast wide cluster analysis of marine trade
- B) Economic summit
  - partners: EDC's, chambers, governor's office, NOAA

Timeframe: one year to build analysis, for long term: build collaboration and clout for working together.
Cost: $50K

#3) Focused Data Collection (60 points)

Purpose:

- To use ocean acidification to focus on economic and environmental threats (involves jobs, energy, environment)

Key Actions:

- Coastal MRC-wide workshop to determine existing data, and gaps
- strategy and planning to:
  - fill in data gaps,
  - analyze impact,
  - identify funds and determine costs

Timeframe - these things within 6 months
Vision: Use as catalyst to bring in other clusters, legislative connections, student internships, socio-economic assessment, coast wide instrumental monitoring, outreach,

#4) Coast wide MRC Media Blitz (40 points)

Purpose:

- Describe what the MRC is, what we have accomplished, what's underway, support and funds
- show united voice (more power in Seattle area = donations and volunteers)

Key Actions:

- free radio, newspaper, calendar ("hot shellfish guys"), email, posters, pictures, area guide, placemats (some of these could be revenue-generating)
- bi-monthly/quarterly
- Importance of marine jobs
- highlight each individual MRC project, oil spill, marine debris
- spring marine fling at Olympia each spring: keep focus on the project and what we're working on
- benefit dinners, special speakers
- coast wide video highlighting importance of jobs and resources
- connect the food source to the rest of the country

Cost: $500 to set up website, $200 annual to maintain it

#5 Coast Wide BioBlitz (citizen science and involvement) (38 points)

Purpose:

- One day to engage broad participation in cataloging marine resource and local and traditional knowledge (with advance outreach) All info uploaded and serves as timepiece of data and info

Key Actions:

- Create an expert team: coordination, sci/taxonomic, techies
- Recent volunteers
- send people out to catalogue what's on the beaches before an oil spill hits
- advertising to bring people on board

Timeframe: plan winter - spring; implement spring-summer
Cost: Affordable, doable
Can identify potential longer-term volunteers for monitoring
Priorities and benchmarks

- marine habitats (invasives, debris, is it changing, different across regions, etc)
- marine life (inventory)
- sound science (documentation via photos, GIS component)
- education and outreach (all people, all ages)

(Could be pre-cursor to Joe's project: inventory and cataloguing, maybe not standardized areas for searching, data stored on photo cataloguing site like Flicker, Picasso) There are several similar projects such as taking a picture of a frog with I-phone and send to herpetologist, good way to engage volunteers, take to next level to build capacity, similar to People for Puget Sound Rapid Inventory, a bit more systematic)

#6 Coastal MRC: The Movie (outreach) (23 points)

Purpose:

- A 25- min movie to promote awareness and education of coastal resources and issues

Key Actions:

- steering committee from 4 MRC's
- select and fund videographer
- find partners
- schedule sessions with each MRC to select content

Timeframe: 1-2 years

Meet the Criteria ? Yes: It's fundable, coast wide, MRC benchmarks, promotes MRC future, broad impact and usability with wide audience. Useable from high schools to seniors, introduce at MRC workshops; Voice of the Strait is similar low-budget ($10K)video, which is very effective . Cost: depends on professional level of video.

#7 Symposium on Coastal Marine Spatial Planning (22 points)

Purpose:

- Identify core CMSP processes
- Learn from others (MA, RI) how has this worked elsewhere? successes, failures, job displacements, subsidies, how it effects local communities.
- Ties in with jobs, keep legislators and others informed about marine planning.

Key Actions:

- outreach to other regions
- identify speakers/topics
- identify audience
- set up meeting
- summarize results and distribute
- next steps
- feasibility study? mapping tools?

Cost $40K (speakers, travel)

#8 Legislative Outreach (19 points)

Purpose:

- develop a relationship between the coastal MRC's and our state legislators
- Information exchange
- conduit direct to legislators, ask for legislation

Key actions:

- get list of coastal caucus members, CCM
- request a meeting between MRC's and CCM either in Olympia or Aberdeen
- give MRC's history and recent developments, standing together as a voice,
- even if don't vote for it should do it anyway

Time - ASAP

Cost - $0

Future issues: CMSP, oil spill prevention, jobs!

Comment: Youth Group merged with other projects

Next Steps:

After discussion, the group decided to pursue the top two projects. They are different enough, with enough passion for both of them, don't want to splinter the group. They are both doable and fundable. The Data collection team will phase their project over two years so this year can be focus on getting things started.

Action Planning:

In the next 90 days, what key things need to be done, who will do them?

Goal: come away with accountability to follow-up, and in late January review the two projects again.

1) Jobs

In 90 days:

- do a draft proposal to define deliverables
- identify experts (sociologist, economist) qualifications, who could do analysis
- assess costs
- distribute to MRC the draft proposal, look for supports
- Who = steering committee, Mark Placket, Miranda Wecker, Brian Sheldon, Libbie Cain, Mike Buchman and Rod Fleck north coast

2) Marine Debris

In 90 days:

- November: each MRC provide support for project (designate participants to form working group)
- Membership of Working Group = 4-MRC's , WCCA, academia, others?
- Joint MRC working group to meet in early December
- by January 2011 - complete draft project Scope Of Work to share with all MRC's

3) Data collection update

In 90 days:

- Hire grad student intern, get internship description in next 90 days, put together report to present to MRC's on what this info looks like

For next year:

- Focus on ocean acidification, need report on data on what is already being collected, how is it being used, what data gaps already identified. we know some is already happening.
- Pull together workshop (MRC's + experts) decide what exactly do MRC's do, where to plug in, know we want citizen science, outreach, media, collaborate with other entities, shellfish jobs, goal of workshop is where MRC's fit.
- Next phase work with steering committee of MRC members to develop the proposal, get a small grant to put proposal together, go after $$ needed for the project.